

1841; and I am informed by Dr. Gulia that M. Barthélemy, of Marseilles, shot four specimens (young birds) in Gozo in the winter of 1858-59.

248. *PODICEPS CRISTATUS.* (Crested Grebe.)

*Blongiun prim*, Maltese.

Common. Arrives in September, and may be seen during the greater part of the winter. It is sometimes seen on passage in the spring.

249. *PODICEPS CORNUTUS.* (Horned Grebe.)

*Blongiun sekond*, Maltese.

Met with in winter.

250. *PODICEPS AURITUS.* (Eared Grebe.)

*Blongiun sekond*, Maltese.

Not very common; but I have obtained four or five specimens.

251. *PODICEPS MINOR.* (Little Grebe.)

*Blongiun terz*, Maltese.

Not uncommon about the end of August or beginning of September.

252. *URIA TROILE.* (Guillemot.)

One specimen was taken about twelve years ago, and is still in the possession of Dr. Grech Delicata, Professor of Zoology and Botany in the Malta University.

253. *FRATERCULA ARCTICA.* (Puffin.)

Schembri mentions the capture of a single specimen of this rare Mediterranean bird in November 1832.

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XII.—*Five Months in the West Indies.*

By E. CAVENDISH TAYLOR, M.A., F.Z.S.

Part II.—*Martinique, Dominica, and Porto Rico.*

[Continued from p. 97.]

FROM Trinidad or Venezuela to the Windward Islands is a great descent in an ornithological point of view; for whereas the former localities are excessively rich in birds, both as regards species and individuals, the latter are decidedly poor in species,

and, except in the case of Humming-birds (*Trochilidæ*), in individuals also. I may here mention that by the term *Windward Islands* I mean the whole chain of islands, formerly called the Lesser Antilles, lying between Trinidad and the group of small islands called the Virgin Islands. Bird-collecting in these islands is rather uphill work, as birds are rather scarce, and it is impossible (at least I found it so) to obtain any assistance either in shooting or skinning them. Porto Rico is better supplied with birds than the Windward Islands, but is, of course, not to be compared with Trinidad.

Before giving a list of the birds I succeeding in procuring in these localities, I will briefly describe the route of the Royal Mail Steam-packets from Trinidad, through the Windward Islands, to St. Thomas and Porto Rico, making a few remarks on each island *en passant*. Tobago I did not see, so I content myself with saying that its capital is Scarborough, on the windward coast of the island; but the steamer calls at Courland Bay, on the opposite or leeward coast. After leaving Port of Spain, Trinidad, and steaming through one of the lovely channels of the Boca del Drago, a run of about nine hours brings us to Granada, which has the great advantage, shared by but few of the British West Indian Islands, of possessing a good though not large harbour, on which stands the town of St. George, the capital of the island, where the steamer calls. Formerly, when the niggers were slaves and obliged to work, Granada was one of the most important and productive of these islands; but now, with the exception of St. Lucia and Dominica, it is the most poverty-stricken. Most of the estates are abandoned, and a great part of the island has gone back to bush. Granada differs from the other islands of the group in not possessing one of those lofty, conical, semi-extinct volcanos which, in these parts, are called *souffrières*. It is a lovely green island, extremely rugged and mountainous, but nowhere attaining a very high elevation. It is considered very healthy, and has a *spécialité* for fruit and turtles. As the steamer stops here to coal on its way up to Trinidad, I was able to spend the whole day on shore—an opportunity of which I gladly availed myself. This was my first day ashore in the West Indies.

I remember seeing a good many birds, and being much delighted with my first introduction to live Humming-birds, which took place here. The impression derived from that day's experience was, that Granada is richer in birds than Martinique or Dominica ; but as I had not my gun on shore, and as I was then quite ignorant of West Indian forms, I really cannot give the name of any one species I saw. After leaving Granada we pass, without stopping, the group of little islands called the Grenadines, the chief of which is Carriacou. Both going and returning I passed these islands in the night, and therefore saw nothing of them. We then arrive at St. Vincent, the capital of which is Kingstown, where the steamer calls. This is also a beautiful green-looking island, not so rugged in its general features as Granada, but with a lofty *souffrière* towards the north coast, which attains a height of 4000 feet, and is said to be one of the best worth seeing in the West Indies. It was once very prosperous and highly cultivated, but is now very much the reverse ; still I do not think it has fallen quite so low as Granada. I had intended staying a fortnight in St. Vincent ; but yellow fever having broken out there just as I was passing, I abandoned that intention. From St. Vincent a beat of 100 miles dead to windward brings us to Barbadoes, where the passengers by the Trinidad boat have generally to tranship into the boat from Demerara. Barbadoes, or "Bimshire" as it is playfully called, presents a very striking contrast to the other Windward Islands. The latter are beautiful, green, mountainous, covered with forest, little cultivated, and very thinly inhabited ; the former is ugly, brown, utterly devoid both of mountains and woods, is every inch under sugar, and swarms with a very dense population. Barbadoes is, I believe, just the size of the Isle of Wight ; it is rather larger than Granada, St. Vincent, or Antigua, is about half the size of Sta Lucia and Dominica, and about twice that of St. Kitt's. It is quite harbourless,—the anchorage off Bridgetown, where the packets lie, being a mere open roadstead. Bridgetown, the capital, is a large, straggling, ill-built town, its only points of merit being its ice-house, which is the best in the West Indies, and its street-cabs, which other West Indian towns do not possess. Barbadoes lies quite out of the chain of the Windward

Islands, its position being about 100 miles to the east or windward of them. In its geological formation it is also distinct from them ; they are all (except Antigua) volcanic, while it is a coral-island. The sea in the neighbourhood of Barbadoes swarms with flying-fish, which are eaten and much esteemed : I found them good, but rather dry. All the flying-fish I saw while in the West Indies seemed to be of the same species ; from the length, and backward position of the ventral fins, I suspect that they were *Exocoetus exiliens*. From Barbadoes a course of about 100 miles brings us to Sta Lucia, where we lie off at the entrance of the fine harbour of Castries, the capital of the island. Sta Lucia decidedly enjoys a worse reputation than any other of these islands ; it is undoubtedly about the most desolate and poverty-stricken of the lot, and it is said to be the most unhealthy. And then Sta Lucia swarms with venomous snakes to such a degree that I was told one could not go even a step or two into the bush without being bitten ; and, if bitten, one was sure to die. Any one living in a neighbouring island looks upon a friend about to visit Sta Lucia as a “ gone ’coon,” and begs him to make his will before starting. It is certainly a remarkable fact that the adjacent islands, Sta Lucia and Martinique, swarm with a peculiarly venomous species of snake, while all the other Windward Islands, the Virgin Islands, and Porto Rico are quite free from any venomous snake whatever. The scientific name of this much-dreaded reptile is *Trigonocephalus lanceolatus* ; the English call it the Rat-tailed Snake ; the French call it *Serpent fer de lance*. It attains a large size, and is, I believe, peculiar to these two islands. In Sta Lucia these serpents come even into the town at night, so that it is not safe to walk in the dark without a lantern ; in the much more cultivated and inhabited island, Martinique, they are less numerous. *En revanche*, Sta Lucia is exceedingly lovely as seen from the sea—so beautifully green and wooded. Its *souffrière* is said to be very curious and well worth a visit, and it abounds in conical sugar-loaf-shaped hills, locally called *pitons*. I do not think that any of its mountains are very high ; but their outline is peculiarly picturesque. The next island, going north, is the fine and important French island, Martinique, in which I



stayed a fortnight. This is, next to Guadaloupe, the largest of the Windward Islands, being about a third larger than Sta Lucia or Dominica. It is far more prosperous, better cultivated, and more inhabited than any of the English islands, except Barbadoes. Sugar is its chief if not its only produce, but of this it manages to produce a great quantity. The steamer calls at St. Pierre, the commercial capital, which is the largest town, I believe, in the West Indies, except Havana. The seat of government, however, is at Fort de France, formerly Fort Royal, which has the advantage over St. Pierre of possessing a good harbour. Fort de France is the first port of call of the new French line of West Indian steamers which run from St. Nazaire here, and hence on to St. Jago de Cuba and Mexico. It is a much smaller town than St. Pierre, but far cooler and pleasanter. Martinique most certainly does not abound in birds: I could make a larger collection in Trinidad in a week than here in a couple of months. I was told that four species of Humming-bird were found in Martinique; but I only saw three, viz. *Orthorhynchus exilis*, *Eulampis jugularis*, and *E. holosericeus*, of which the first is the most abundant, and the last the least common. I made several excursions into various parts of the island; the most interesting was to a mineral-bath establishment, about two hours' ride from Fort de France, situated on the slope of a group of beautiful volcanic mountains called Les Pitons de Carbet, where I stayed for a day or two. This was the best locality for birds that I discovered in Martinique. The highest mountain in the island is the extinct volcano called La Montagne Pelée, situated a few miles N.E. of St. Pierre, which attains an elevation of about 4500 feet.

Next to Martinique comes Dominica, the most beautiful, the wildest, and the least cultivated and inhabited of any of these islands, where I stayed a fortnight, the happy guest of his Excellency Thomas Price, Esq., the Governor. The island of Dominica is about thirty miles long by fifteen miles wide, and is simply a mass of mountains rising abruptly, and in many parts perpendicularly, out of the sea, and clothed from base to summit with the greenest and most luxuriant vegetation. As palms and silk-cotton trees are the *spécialité* of Trinidad, so are tree-ferns of

Dominica. In many parts, especially where the forest and bush have been burnt, the hills are covered with tree-ferns, which average, I should say, from twenty to thirty feet in height. The capital is Roseau, on the leeward coast, where the steamer calls. There is not a single mile of carriage-road in the whole island; and although the town of Roseau is situated at the mouth of a river of the same name, there is absolutely no bridge; so that, unless you are on horseback, you must strip and wade, if you want to get across it. The reproach levelled at the town by Mr. A. Trollope of having no pier or landing-place exists no longer, thanks to the energy of the present Governor, who has had a very good and convenient stone pier constructed, and is proceeding to build a bridge also. The mountains of Dominica are the highest of any in the whole chain of the Lesser Antilles: the highest peak of Morne Diablotin, in the centre of the island, reaches a height of 5300 feet; and Conliabon, near Roseau, exceeds 4500 feet. There is a large lake, of vast depth, up in the mountains, at an elevation of over 3000 feet; also a *souffrière* near the south end of the island; and a lot of hot springs, which boil up, in the Roseau valley,—all of which I visited. I found the same three species of Humming-birds in Dominica as in Martinique; in Dominica, however, *Eulampis holosericeus* and *Orthorhynchus exilis* were the most common, and were excessively abundant, *Eulampis jugularis* being much less so. The island also abounds in a very large species of Frog (*Cystignathus ocellatus*), much larger than the North-American Bull-Frog; these are called by the Creoles *Crapauds*, and are eaten and highly esteemed. I can vouch, from experience, that they are excellent; the flesh is white, and tastes like that of a young rabbit. The Antillean Boa (*Boa diviniloqua*) is also very common here; its Creole name is *Serpent tête-chien*: I caught several of them, and brought one alive to England.

After leaving Dominica and crossing the channel, of about twenty-five miles, which separates the islands, we come to the French island, Guadeloupe, which is considerably the largest and in many respects the most remarkable of the Lesser Antilles. Guadeloupe is a double island: the leeward or western portion, which is called Basseterre, is mountainous and volcanic, and

rather larger than Dominica ; the windward or eastern portion, which is called Grandeterre, is level, formed of coral, and is larger than Barbadoes. These two islands are separated by a very narrow channel, called La Rivière Salée. The steamer calls at Basseterre, on the leeward coast. This is a small town, but is the seat of government of Guadaloupe : it is situated on open ground, which gradually slopes up from the sea to the foot of the *souffrière*, a fine, picturesque, semi-extinct volcano, 5000 feet high. The commercial capital is called Pointe à Pitre ; it is in Grandeterre, just at the south entrance of the Rivière Salée, and is a fine, well-built town. Guadaloupe produces a great quantity of sugar, the larger part of which is, I believe, grown in Grandeterre. Basseterre produces coffee as well as sugar. I am inclined to believe that, on the whole, there is more to be seen in Guadaloupe than in any other of the Windward Islands. The next island to the north is Antigua, which differs from most of the rest of this group in not being volcanic, nor mountainous, nor very beautiful. I do not mean to say that it is flat and ugly, like Barbadoes ; but it has no mountains and no forests, which are two important elements of beauty in tropical scenery. The capital is St. John's, on the north coast, which has no good harbour. The steamer calls at English Harbour, on the south : this is a deep, land-locked, but very narrow harbour, in which is a dockyard and government establishment. Close to English Harbour is the larger but less deep harbour of Falmouth, which was lately surveyed by order of Government, to see if it would do, instead of St. Thomas, as the port of transshipment for the Windward Islands, Trinidad, and Demarara ; it was, however, declared to be too shallow, and English Harbour too narrow, for the purpose. This is much to be regretted, as in point of location Antigua is perfect, being the shortest route to every important point—which St. Thomas is not. Though much fallen from its former prosperity and importance, Antigua is yet much more cultivated and inhabited, and produces more sugar, than any other of the English islands I have mentioned in this article, except Barbadoes.

On leaving Antigua, our course, which has hitherto been nearly due north, takes a westerly direction, and we steer for St. Kitt's,

and lie-to off Basseterre, the capital of this small but pretty and prosperous island. St. Kitt's has a high mountainous ridge in the centre of the island, called Mount Misery, which attains a height of 4000 feet. Near the coast the land is level and well cultivated, and produces a good deal of sugar. Close to St. Kitt's, to the S.E., is the still smaller island, Nevis, which seems to be a single, high mountain, with very gradually sloping sides, covered with sugar-cane. Both these islands are now, I believe, doing very well. I was informed by several people well acquainted with St. Kitt's that the island abounds with monkeys, which live in the mountains, and descend at night to the sugar-cane pieces and do a great deal of damage. I was further assured that these monkeys, which are about the size of a cat, and very fierce and untameable, are also found in Nevis. Now it certainly seems a very wonderful thing that monkeys should abound, or even exist, in these two small islands, when all the other West Indian Islands, both Greater and Lesser Antilles, including the large islands of Cuba, St. Domingo, Jamaica, and Porto Rico, are utterly monkeyless. In Trinidad, of course, there are lots of monkeys, of two sorts, viz. a *Mycetes* and a *Cebus*, of the same species as those found on the adjacent parts of South America.

After leaving St. Kitt's we touch nowhere till we arrive at St. Thomas, which much-abused little Danish island may be said to consist simply of a harbour, with a town at the head of it, backed by a high, steep ridge of hills. Both harbour and town are very good of their kind, the harbour being large, deep, commodious, and well sheltered; the town, which is called Charlotte Amelia, being one of the best, though not one of the largest, in the West Indies. One morning I walked to the top of the high, steep ridge at the back of the town, and was rewarded by a beautiful view, which embraced the greater part of the group of Virgin Islands. I had also the pleasure of seeing again my old friend, *Crotophaga ani*, whom I had lost sight of since I left Trinidad; also another Cuckoo, probably *Coccyzus seniculus*, and lots of Ground-Doves.

After spending three days at St. Thomas, on the evening of the 1st of May I went on board the Jamaica packet, and the



next morning, at sunrise, found myself off the north coast of Porto Rico, in sight of St. Juan, the capital, where the steamer calls on its way to Jamaica. I remained a fortnight in Porto Rico, enjoying the kind hospitality of Mr. George Latimer, one of the principal inhabitants of the island. Porto Rico is the fourth in point of size of the West Indian Islands, being very little inferior to Jamaica in that respect, but far superior to it in population, prosperity, wealth, and quantity and value of produce; indeed, it is second to Cuba alone of West Indian colonies in its annual exports of sugar. This satisfactory result may be ascribed in a great measure to the institution of slavery, which still obtains here. The greater portion of Porto Rico is pretty level, and well adapted for the cultivation of the sugar-cane; the centre of the island, however, is mountainous, the highest part being the range called the Sierra de Luguillo, towards the east end; even here, however, the elevation does not exceed 4000 feet. The scenery is in many parts exceedingly beautiful; it must be confessed, however, that in the size of its trees, the extent of its forests, and the general luxuriance of its vegetation, Porto Rico does not come up to Trinidad, nor, on the other hand, does it equal in grandeur the magnificent mountain-scenery of Dominica. St. Juan, the capital, is decidedly the best and most city-like town I saw in the West Indies. St. Juan is brilliantly lighted with gas, while St. Pierre, Martinique, and St. Thomas are dimly lighted with oil; and Port of Spain, Trinidad, is not lighted at all. In general appearance, in the fashion of its houses and fortifications, but above all in situation, St. Juan is singularly like Cadiz, only not so large nor so dilapidated. During my stay in Porto Rico, I spent three or four days at a sugar-estate belonging to Mr. Latimer, situated on the River Loisa, at a distance of about twenty-two miles to the east of St. Juan, where I had the opportunity of observing the working of an estate by slave-labour. This estate (which is called Punta) and its vicinity I found a very good locality for birds. I also made several shorter excursions in all directions from the capital. Porto Rico is much richer in birds generally than either Martinique or Dominica, and it especially abounds in Pigeons (*Columbidæ*). Humming-birds (*Trochilidæ*), on the contrary, I

found very scarce: *Lampornis viridis* is the only species I procured here, and that was by no means abundant. This island is singularly deficient in Mammalia; it can boast of no wild native mammal larger than a rat: even the Agouti (*Dasyprocta*), which is found in all the Windward Islands and even in St. Thomas, does not occur here.

The names in the following list of the birds which I met with during my tour through these Islands are mostly taken, as in my former paper, from Dr. Sclater's 'Catalogue of American Birds.'

1. *TINNUNCULUS SPARVERIUS*. American Kestrel.

Occurs, I believe, in all the Windward Islands. I saw it frequently, in Dominica.

2. *MIMOCICHLA PLUMBEA* (Vieill.).

Tolerably common in Porto Rico, where I obtained a specimen. I have a strong suspicion that I saw it also in Martinique. Bill, eyelids, legs, and feet bright yellow.

3. *RAMPHOCINCLUS BRACHYURUS* (Vieill.).

Obtained in Martinique, where it was pretty common in the thick forest. It seems a noisy, restless bird. Creole name, *Gorge blanche*. Seen nowhere but in Martinique.

4. *DENDRÆCA PETECHIA* (Linn.); Sclater, Cat. A. B. p. 32.

Abundant in Porto Rico, and still more so in Dominica; but I do not remember seeing it in Martinique. Specimens from Porto Rico are larger than those from Dominica.

5. *PROGNE DOMINICENSIS* (Gm.).

Obtained in Porto Rico, where it was very abundant.

6. *VIREOSYLVA ALTILOQUA* (Vieill.).

Common both in Porto Rico and Dominica; but not observed in Martinique. Note loud and clear.

7. *CERTHIOLA FLAVEOLA* (Linn.).

It is a remarkable fact that each of the three islands I visited has its own peculiar species of *Certhiola*, and that the specimens from each island are so very distinct in size and colour that any doubt as to their specific value can hardly exist. The specimens from Porto Rico, to which Dr. Sclater assigns the name *Certhiola flaveola*, are much the smallest, and agree exactly with the

description of the *Certhiola* from Jamaica given by Messrs. A. and E. Newton (*Ibis*, 1859, p. 68).

8. *CERTHIOLA DOMINICANA*, sp. nov.

This species (which is very abundant in Dominica) differs from the last in being considerably larger, in having the yellow patch on the rump much less clearly defined, the throat much darker in colour, the yellow of the under parts much brighter and deeper in tint, and in the white on the outer edge of the primaries being altogether absent. These birds were breeding in Dominica in April.

9. *CERTHIOLA ALBIGULA*, Bp. Notes Orn. p. 51.

This, the Martinique species, is not quite equal in size to that from Dominica, and the yellow of the under parts is paler and duller in tint. The patch on the rump is so faintly marked as to be hardly perceptible; and it has no white on the outer edge of the primaries. But the most striking specific character is a broad stripe of white down the centre of the throat. The Creole name of this bird, both in Martinique and Dominica, is *Sucrier*.

10. *SALTATOR GUADALUPENSIS*, Lafr.

Obtained in Dominica, where it is pretty common. Not seen in either of the other islands.

11. *LOXIGILLA NOCTIS* (Gm.).

Abundant both in Martinique and Dominica, but not seen in Porto Rico.

12. *PHONIPARA OMISSA*, Jard.

This plain-coloured little bird is very common in Martinique, Dominica, and Porto Rico. In the two latter islands I found its nest, which is domed like a Willow Wren's, but smaller. The eggs, three in number, are white, with spots of rusty-red colour. I never found the nest of any West Indian bird, except *Crotophaga ani*, containing more than three eggs.

13. *ICTERUS BANANA* (Linn.).

Common in Martinique, where it is called *Le Carouge*; but not seen either in Dominica or Porto Rico. It is said to suspend its purse-like nest from the fronds of the banana or plantain.

14. *ICTERUS DOMINICENSIS* (Linn.).

Common in Porto Rico, where it especially affects the Cabbage-

Palm trees (*Areca oleracea*), in which, I suspect, it builds. Legs dark blue.

15. *ICTERUS XANTHOMUS*, Selater, Cat. A. B. p. 131.\*

Excessively abundant in Porto Rico, and very tame and familiar. I did not see either this or the preceding species in the Windward Islands. Legs black.

16. *QUISCALUS BARITA* (Gm.); Bp. Consp. p. 425.

This species is pretty common in Martinique, but still not very abundant. The Creoles there call it *Le Merle*, and do not seem at all aware that it in any respect differs from the true Blackbird of Europe. In Dominica I did not happen to see it; but it probably does occur there. In Porto Rico it is extremely abundant, and is in fact the commonest bird in the island. It is very tame, and especially frequents the farm-buildings on the estates. It had only just begun to breed when I was in Porto Rico, in the beginning of May; however, I found a nest in an Avocado Pear tree (*Persica gratissima*): it was placed in a fork near the top of the tree, and was in size, form, and general appearance very like that of a Blackbird (*Turdus merula*). It contained one egg, which is decidedly small for the size of the bird, and in colour resembles those of the rest of the *Quiscalinæ*.

17. *CORVUS LEUCOGNAPHALUS* (Vieill.).

One morning, in Porto Rico, as I was looking after birds in a large wood, I heard at some distance off a most extraordinary sound—a kind of piping or jabbering noise such as I had never heard before; so I went to see what it could be. I found it proceeded from two large Blackbirds jabbering to one another in the top of a high tree. I did not succeed in procuring one on that occasion; but subsequently I was more fortunate. In size this species fully equals and, I think, even exceeds the common Crow (*Corvus corone*). Although when the feathers lie

\* In my Catalogue (in a footnote) I described this bird as new, not being able to associate it with any known species. The locality there given (Mexico) was taken from M. Verreaux's label to the specimen described. It now appears that this was an error, and that the true home of the species is Porto Rico.—P. L. S.



smooth the bird seems entirely black, on raising them it is seen that the base of each feather is white. Irides bright red.

18. *TYRANNUS GRISEUS*, Vieill.

This is a very abundant species in Porto Rico; but I did not meet with it anywhere else. It is very bold and familiar, and has a loud, shrill note. Next to *Quiscalus barita*, I think this is the most common bird in Porto Rico.

19. *PITANGUS TAYLORI*, Sclater, sp. nov.\*

This species, which Dr. Sclater has done me the honour of naming after me, is by no means rare in Porto Rico; it is not, however, nearly so abundant as the preceding one.

20. *MYIARCHUS*, sp.?

I shot a pair of birds of an obscure species of this genus in Dominica one morning; but, as this was the only occasion that I saw it, I suspect it is not very common.

21. *ELAINEA MARTINICA*, Linn.

I found this little bird rather common in Dominica, but did not meet with it elsewhere.

22. *LAMPORNIS VIRIDIS*, Gould, Mon. Troch. ii. pl. 78.

Porto Rico is the only locality where I met with this rare Humming-bird, and it was by no means abundant there.

23. *EULAMPIS JUGULARIS*, Gould, Mon. Troch. ii. pl. 82.

I obtained this fine species both in Martinique and Dominica; it is abundant in the former, but less so in the latter island. It frequents cool valleys and thick shady places, and shows a strong preference for bananas and plantains, on the flowers of which it seems to feed. It is decidedly the largest species of Humming-bird I have ever seen alive.

\* *PITANGUS TAYLORI*, sp. nov.

*P.* supra fuscus, capite nigricante, crista interiore flava: alarum marginibus grisescentibus: cauda unicolore: subtus albus, lateraliter griseus, tectricibus subalaribus flavidis: rostro et pedibus nigris. Long. tota 8·5, alæ 4·0, caudæ 3·5, tarsi 0·9.

*Hab.* Ins. Portoricensi.

Affinis *P. caudi-fasciato* (ex Jamaica et Cuba) et ejusdem formæ, sed caudæ fascia basali carens et colore corporis supra fusco nec nigricanti-griseo.—P. L. S.

24. *EULAMPIS HOLOSERICEUS*, Gould, Mon. Troch. ii. pl. 83.

Of the three species of Humming-bird that I obtained in Martinique and Dominica, this is in Dominica the most abundant, and in Martinique the least so. It frequents open places where there are flowering plants and shrubs, upon the blossoms of which it seems to feed. In Martinique it is called *Colibri émeraude*.

25. *ORTHORHYNCHUS EXILIS*, Gould, Mon. Troch. ii. pl. 207.

This pretty little species is very common both in Martinique and Dominica. In both islands the males were more numerous than the females. Its Creole name in Martinique is *Colibri oiseau-mouche*.

26. *CROTOPHAGA ANI*, Linn.

I did not meet with this bird either in Martinique or Dominica; but it was common at St. Thomas and in Porto Rico.

27. *SAUROTERA VIEILLOTII*, Bp.

Abundant in Porto Rico, especially in the forests. Both this and the next species are, in Porto Rico, called *Pajero bobo* (*Anglicè*, Foolish Bird). This species has the naked skin round the eyes of a bright red colour.

28. *COCYZUS NESIOTES*, Cab. & Hein. *C. dominicus*, Sclater, Cat. A. B. p. 323.

Equally abundant in Porto Rico as the preceding species. I shot and skinned a female, early in May, which contained an egg ready for laying; the shell was quite hard, and of a pale-blue colour. This bird in general appearance is very like the next species, from which, however, it is readily distinguished by its much smaller size.

29. *COCYZUS SENICULUS*, Vieill.

This species I found tolerably common in Dominica; but I did not see it elsewhere. The crop of an individual that I skinned contained a large ball, composed of the remains of large grasshoppers and tree-crickets. Creole name, *Coucou manioc*.

30. *MELANERPES PORTORICENSIS* (Vieill.).

This Woodpecker is very common in Porto Rico wherever there are large old trees. I did not see or hear of any of the Woodpecker family (*Picidæ*) in Martinique or Dominica.

31. *CHRYSOTIS VITTATA*, Bodd.

Abundant in Porto Rico, where it is generally to be seen in small flocks.

32. *CONURUS XANTHOLEMUS*, Sclater.

Obtained in St. Thomas.

33. *COLUMBA CORENSIS*, Gm.

I obtained a specimen of this fine large Pigeon in Dominica, where it is pretty common on the mountains and in the forests. It also occurs in Porto Rico, where, however, it is less abundant than the next species. In Dominica it is called *Ramier*. Legs and feet dull red.

34. *COLUMBA LEUCOCEPHALA*, Linn.

Very abundant in Porto Rico.

35. *ZENAIDA MARTINICANA*, Bp. Consp. ii. p. 82.

This Dove is very common both in Dominica and Porto Rico, and probably in Martinique also, though I did not happen to see it there myself. Legs and feet bright red.

36. *GEOTRYGON MONTANA*, Bp. Consp. ii. p. 72.

This species is not uncommon in Porto Rico, where it by no means confines itself to the mountains, as its name would imply; for I have frequently seen it in low-lying bush and forest near the coast. Legs and eyelids bright red. This bird is generally to be seen on the ground, and not in trees.

37. *CHAMÆOPELIA TROCHILA*, Bp. Consp. ii. p. 77.

Very abundant in Porto Rico and St. Thomas, from the latter of which islands my specimens were obtained. This species is very like *Chamæopelia passerina* of North America, but very unlike any of the species of Ground-Dove I obtained in Trinidad or Venezuela.

38. *ARDEA CÆRULEA*.

Common in Porto Rico.

39. *BUTORIDES VIRESCENS*.

Abundant in Dominica and Porto Rico. Legs and feet yellow.

40. *PORPHYRIO MARTINICA*.

This bird, which in size and habits much resembles *Gallinula*

*chloropus* of Europe, is very abundant in Porto Rico, in suitable localities.

41. *PODILYMBUS DOMINICUS.*

I once came upon several of these birds swimming about in a broad deep ditch in Porto Rico, and succeeded in shooting one. This bird differs from the true Grebes (*Podiceps*) in having the feet semipalmated as well as lobated, and also in the form of the bill, which is much deeper than in that genus.

42. *DENDROCYGNA AUTUMNALIS.*

Abundant in Porto Rico, where it breeds.

43. *LARUS ATRICILLUS.* American Black-headed Gull.

This is the only species of Gull that I saw in the West Indies, and I did not see this south of St. Thomas. There, however, and at Porto Rico it was very numerous, especially in the harbours of St. Thomas and St. Juan de Porto Rico.

44. *STERNA FULIGINOSA.* Sooty Tern.

In the market at St. Thomas I saw a large basketful of the eggs of this species, which had been taken at Tortola; so I bought a dozen of them for half-a-dollar.

45. *PHAËTHON ÆTHEREUS.* Red-billed Tropic-Bird.

Tropic-Birds breed in great numbers in Martinique, in the high cliffs, composed of volcanic ash, which extend from the town of St. Pierre, along the coast towards Fort de France. I was there at the end of March, and I used to watch them flying in and out of their circular holes in the vertical face of the cliff. I tried to procure specimens both of the birds and their eggs, but without success. I could see their *red* bills quite plainly; so no doubt the species was *Phaëthon æthereus*. I also frequently saw Tropic-Birds flying about the harbour of St. Juan de Porto Rico.

46. *FREGATA AQUILA.* Frigate Pelican.

I used often to see this graceful bird, soaring high in the air, among the Windward Islands. I was never fortunate enough to see it attack other birds to rob them of their prey; but I have seen it plunge into the sea, as if fishing on its own account. The



